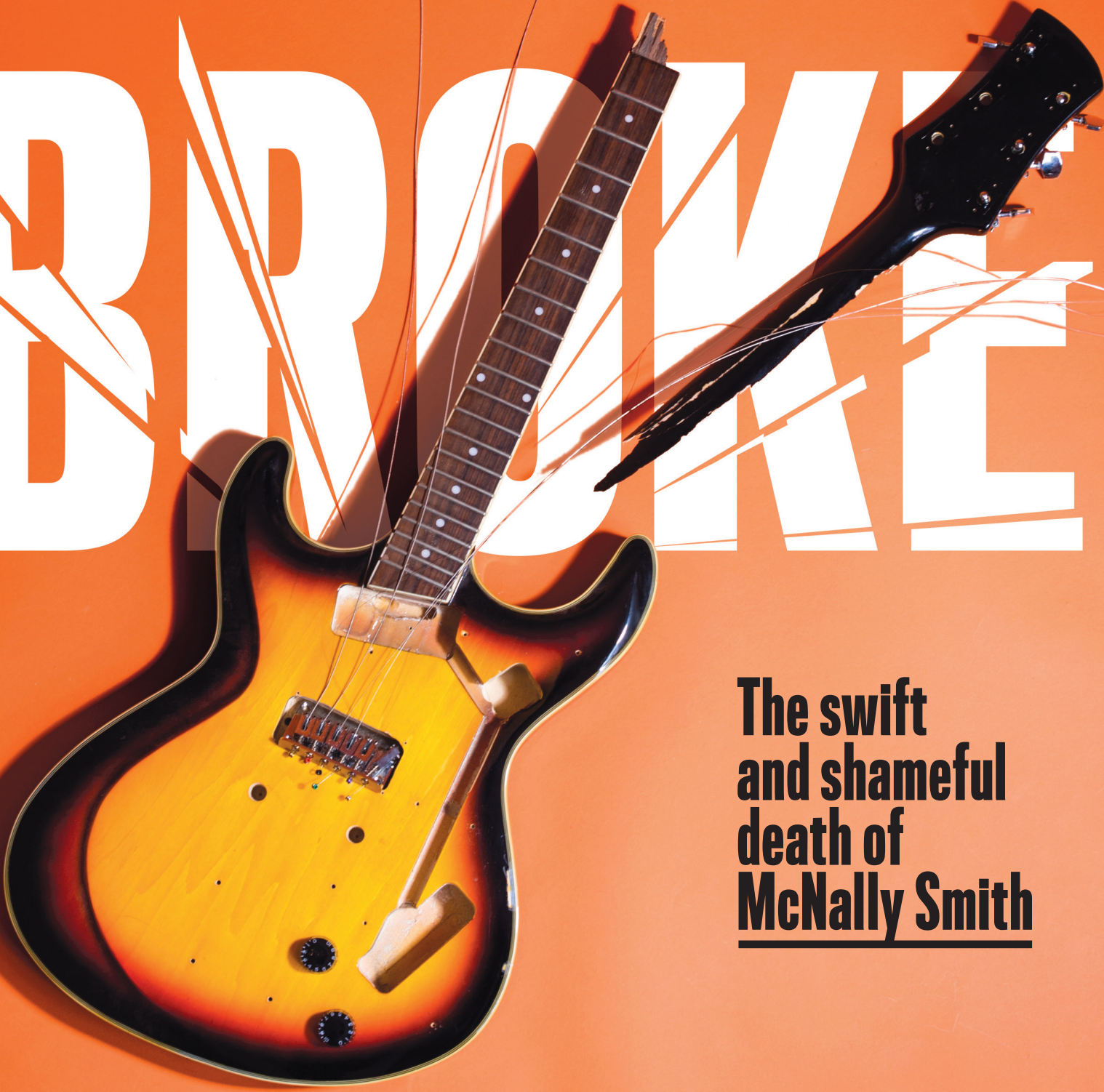


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**The swift
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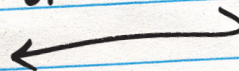


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15



29

9 **FEATURE**
BROKE

The swift and shameful death of McNally Smith
By Bill Lindeke

- 4 **NEWS**
THE SHORTLIST
Nature-hating congressmen
BLOTTER
Bloomberg loves our economy
MULLEN
Trailing a troll

- 15 **FOOD**
FOOD FLIGHT
Trying a taste of everything isn't just for breweries

- 19 **A-LIST**
LUCKYPALOOZA
Celebrate St. Pat's Day early in St. Paul

- 29 **FILM**
BOMBSHELL
The Hedy Lamarr history we should know
- 31 **THEATER**
THE ROARING GIRL
This 1611 text has hardly aged a day

- 33 **FASHION**
STREET STYLE
Miguel at Palace Theatre

- 35 **MUSIC**
CRITICS' PICKS

- 36 **CLASSIFIEDS**
SAVAGE LOVE
FREE WILL
ASTROLOGY

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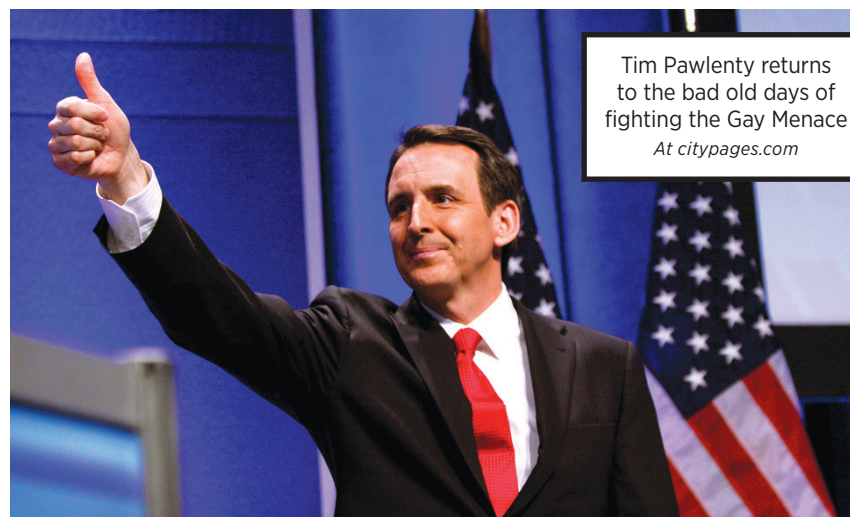
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THE STAT SHEET

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Percentage of Minnesota's electricity
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70

Percentage of
Minnesotans opposed to
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\$106,000

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in the St. Paul school system

10%

Rise in St. Paul's crime rate last year,
mostly due to an increase in theft

**"I hope they put another Whole Foods there.
I just love their selection of gluten-free cheese
and free-range eggplant."**

Reader Tim Dempsey responds to "St. Paul bar O'Gara's might be bulldozed, replaced by
apartments (and a smaller O'Gara's)," at citypages.com.

MOLESTING MOTHER NATURE

MINNESOTA'S ANNUAL spending on outdoor
recreation amounts to a massive \$1.6 billion,
supporting 140,000 jobs. So one would think
the state's congressional delegation would
be steadfast in protecting Mother Nature.

Wrong. The League of Conservation Voters
has released its annual congressional score-
card, which encompasses 35 environmental
votes taken in the U.S. House. The study found
that four Minnesota congressmen appear
to believe they represent Exxon-Mobil, not
their home state.

Jason Lewis and Tom Emmer scored a
perfect 0. Erik Paulsen and Colin Peterson
weren't far behind with a wretched 14 percent.
With friends like these, there's really no need
for enemies.

POPULAR STORIES

AT CITYPAGES.COM

50 great **MITCH HEDBERG** jokes
on what would've been
his 50th birthday

St. Paul billboard graffiti:
'KILL THE NRA'

Northeast abruptly loses a brewery:
Is the **CRAFT BEER BUBBLE**
bursting?

Meet the Minnesotans finding love
through **POLYAMORY**

TWIN PEAKS' BLACK LODGE
is in south Minneapolis

CONTRARIANS RISING

Bloomberg gushes over the Twin Cities' convention-defying economy

With the Minnesota Legislature in session and elections nearing, you will soon be treated to an onslaught of wailing about how high taxes and heavy regulation are killing Minnesota's economy. Don't believe it. No lesser source than Bloomberg is absolutely slobbering over the success of the Twin Cities.

Columnist Noah Smith writes that some cities are rising without "following anything like the standard game plan," the Twin Cities chief among them.

In recent years, that game plan has been for mid-sized cities to create tech clusters around big universities, based on something of a build-it-and-they-will-come thesis. But as Smith notes, the world will only support so many clusters.

The Twin Cities, meanwhile, is prospering organically, despite high taxes, unwelcoming weather, and the great dampening said

to come with lefty governments.

Smith cites stats showing the metro area outpacing the rest of the Midwest in key indicators like population growth, per capita income, and unemployment. Chalk it up to a diversified economy more resistant to downturns.

"Essentially, the Twin Cities look like a miniature version of New York City," Smith writes. "They do a little bit of everything."

More interesting is a thesis by University of Minnesota professor Myles Shaver, who argues that the area's true strength is a cluster of skilled business managers.

The theory goes that "Minneapolis is so successful at turning medium-size companies into giants because its most important resource never leaves the city: educated managers of every level, who can work at just about any company," Smith writes. "Of the 25 largest American cities, only one had a lower rate of outflow of high-

earning, college-educated workers than Minneapolis."

This is likely where those high taxes, strong regulations, and lefty governments become our advantage. Compared to most states, Minnesota has yet to bail on quality-of-life issues like good public schools, parks, health care, and social safety nets. So while low taxes in Oklahoma or Indiana may improve the immediate bottom line, you also have to live in Oklahoma or Indiana. And smart people tend not to make life decisions solely on the heft of their wallets.

All is not perfect, of course. The Twin Cities remain dogged by segregation and racial income disparities. Other Midwestern cities with lesser economies still manage to match our median household income.

Finally, our good fortune has yet to leach into much of the Minnesota countryside. That means outstate legislators will soon be launching their annual demonization of the Twin Cities, an us-against-them play that makes for good politics, but has yet to be formally introduced to the truth.

For the stats also say this: Out of Minnesota's 87 counties, the seven composing the metro area produce 64 percent of the state's tax revenues.



GLEN STUBBE, STAR TRIBUNE

Economically speaking, the Twin Cities are a miniature version of New York City.

Translated: The Twin Cities boom pays for schools and roads from Windom to Wadena—not to mention the salaries of those legislators who so gleefully denounce us. —PETE KOTZ

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On the Trail of a Troll

A sad dive into the mind of a local Twitter menace

On more than three dozen occasions over a 12-month span, stories posted on City Pages' Twitter account received a harsh reply from one man.

An article mentioning the late Sen. Paul Wellstone was met with a clip of *Family Guy* characters projectile vomiting. After a story about Minnesota DFL House Minority Leader Melissa Hortman calling out a "white male" card game in the House chamber, the user added Hortman's Twitter handle to make sure she saw his reply: "somebody get their panties in a bunch?"

The troll's profile revealed an astonishing set of statistics. Since the account opened in 2012, he has tweeted about 84,000 times. As of this week, he has three followers. And I'm fairly certain one is or was a member of his immediate family.

In the age of Trump, there is no more reviled but less understood figure than the Twitter troll. What makes them tick? And why do those ticks sometimes sound like the last few before the bomb goes off?

I'm leaving out this troll's handle. Think of him as a representative specimen of a breed we deem unworthy of consideration, and never compassion. The study of this one man teaches something about both.

He tweets constantly—several dozen times a day, sometimes 100—often obsessing over a topic or source. In one manic volley, he tweeted 24 links related to the CIA, torture, and terrorism—all within 10 minutes.

Aside from these frenzied episodes, the user's other favorite tweet is the insult.

Gov. Mark Dayton's "meds" are making him "unfit to be governor." DFL U.S. Sen. Amy Klobuchar should not open her mouth. U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) and California Sen. Dianne Feinstein, whom he both calls "grandma," should stop talking and retire, respectively.

To the actress Jennifer Lawrence, who'd given an interview on the use of nudity in film, he dredged up her victimhood from a hacking scheme: "We have already seen the leaked iPhone nudes. Not a big deal."

Michelle Obama's new book will be good for "toilet paper." Danica Patrick's crash at the Daytona 500 was just her being a "typical chick driver." A photo of the mayor of Los Angeles and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau looking handsome is "so gay." A Macy's line aimed at Muslims is "terrorist clothing."

From what well of anger does all this emanate? How is one drafted into a scatter-shot culture war, reporting to the trenches day in and day out, even if no one is paying attention?

I sent a direct message. Would he talk to me about Twitter, and what he gets out of it? "No thanks" came the reply. Further questions—Why do you tweet so often? Why so many insults—went unanswered.

I took my questions to another veteran of the troll wars. While Betsy Hodges was the mayor of Minneapolis, her account was routinely set upon by packs of vicious nationalists. She hasn't spoken on the record since Election Day. Not to the media, anyway. On Twitter, unmoored from the strictures of office or campaign, she has plenty to say.

Hodges started reviewing and rating trolls on a 1 to 10 scale. They get points for the proper use of you're vs. your. One got a point for having an American flag in their profile picture. Another was praised for "patronizing, faux respect," and giving Hodges a "diminutive name."

When she's not tweeting back at them, Hodges is trying to remind herself that people attacking her "are human, too," even if they don't treat her like one.

"Whenever I can remember the pain they have to be in to be unkind like that," Hodges says, "it helps me be more compassionate, more human myself." Soon, she'll just start telling all her trolls she loves them, "because, wow, that is just manifest pain."

After days wallowing in my subject's acidity, Hodges' base humanity pushed me back in, deeper, through Google searches, personal accounts, and public records. Clues churned up enough evidence to convince me of the account holder's identity. And I think I know what happened.

He went broke. Owed money he didn't have with a mortgage underwater, according to court filings. He had often been without work and scraped by on unemployment. (If it's really him behind this account, the troll's complaints about "welfare" only become bitterer.)

Back in 2012, before his financial upset, our troll was hardly a bile-spewing villain. Throughout the end of that year, five-plus months, he tweeted only 15 times. Each was either positive, fun, or directed at a family member. "Wish you were here," he wrote to one around Christmas time.



Mike Mullen

He still tweets at those same family members' accounts, ribbing them and tagging to alert them to stories he thinks they might be interested in. They hardly respond, or stopped long ago.

I was reminded how frequently the troll tweeted at local sports talker Dan Barreiro and conservative host Rush Limbaugh, trying to get their attention on some topic. Maybe voices on the radio are his only company, or whoever he can bait on Twitter. He's lonely.

This does not—at all—justify calling Muslims terrorists or taunting a young woman you saw naked against her will. But it raises the question of what this man's mind would be up to if he'd never logged in that first time. Is he everything that's wrong with Twitter? Or is Twitter everything that's wrong with him?

I wish he'd write me back. I wish he'd get help. A hobby. An outlet, some new friends. Some way to be heard, to engage this world in a way that looks less like a street-corner lunatic screaming into traffic, and more like a hand reaching out across a table.

I wish he'd delete his account and start over. 

mmullen@citypages.com

Follow Mike on Twitter: @mikemullen_



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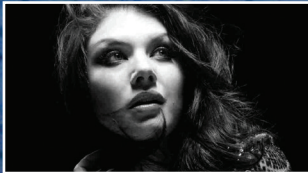


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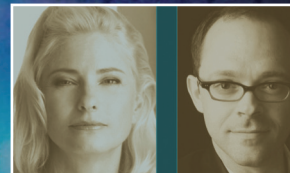
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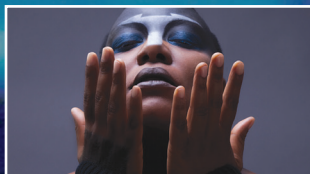
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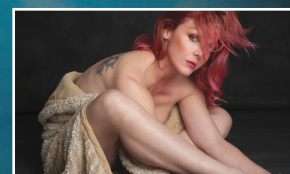
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BROKE

The swift and shameful death of McNally Smith

ALEX UHRICH

ISAAC HENDRICKSON FELL IN LOVE with McNally Smith College of Music in spring 2016. Hendrickson had grown up in Sparta, Wisconsin, and was looking for a college that would fit his growing musical interests. On the suggestion of a friend from high school, Hendrickson visited the downtown St. Paul institution.

“It was such a different school than all the others,” Hendrickson says. “You got experience doing all the other things that were included in the music industry.”

Hendrickson enrolled in McNally Smith, and for almost four semesters, everything went according to plan. By the end of 2017, he’d settled in nicely as a bass performance major. He loved his teachers and spent free time playing in shows and recording around town with his metal band, Corrective Motion.

“I had two years under my belt,” Hendrickson says, “and things were going really good.”

Then everything changed.

BY BILL LINDEKE

One Thursday night in December, Isaac reported to his job as a school receptionist. Friday would be payday. He’d put in a lot of overtime the previous two weeks, and was counting on one last paycheck before Christmas.

Hendrickson noticed large groups of people standing around. It was unusual. A close friend of his came over and broke the news: McNally Smith was closing. Immediately.

“He gave me a hug,” Hendrickson says, “and then it was just hard to believe. I didn’t even know how to react for a couple of hours. And then I found out we weren’t even getting paid anything for the entire last pay period.”

It took a few days for the news to sink in, and a few weeks for Hendrickson to figure out what to do. McNally Smith left Hendrickson with little else to show for a year and a half of college except an outstanding student loan, which he’d used to cover the school’s \$12,500 tuition. Because the college wasn’t regionally accredited, his course credits would not easily transfer. He’d have to start over somewhere else.

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The sudden end of McNally Smith meant Hendrickson lost his job and didn't get paid. The missing paycheck was supposed to cover Hendrickson's expenses for the next "few months," including a Christmas visit from family.

Instead, Hendrickson had to move out of his apartment, and quickly. He moved back in with his parents in the small Wisconsin town he thought he'd left behind.

All things considered, he handled it pretty well.

"At least I was able to find someone to take my spot on my lease," Hendrickson said. "I lost a rather large security deposit, but it was better than having to stay for the full contract. I was able to move out within a month."

It didn't have to be like this. Almost every college that closes at the very least gives advance notice to students, faculty, and staff. But that wasn't the case at McNally Smith.

The key question is, why did the school close when it did? So far, nobody has a good answer.

Today, more than two months since the announcement, few students and faculty can say they saw the end was near. Over the years, there had been declining enrollment, followed by corresponding budget cuts. But both students and faculty believed a plan was in place that would allow the school to navigate the rapidly changing worlds of higher education and the music industry.

A much-discussed proposal would have converted McNally Smith from a for-profit to a nonprofit, as colleges are traditionally organized. School administrators had gone as far as assembling a board of directors full of influential community members, and had spent years working diligently

St. Paul sold McNally Smith's owners the building for \$1, and excused the school from paying property taxes.

on efforts to gain regional accreditation, a lengthy process.

In light of the groundwork laid for this change, staff see the chaotic closure as unforgivable.

"Nobody saw it coming," said Kevin Schwandt, who taught at the school for six years. "We had been told we were moving forward with a nonprofit conversion. It seemed like it was going into effect, and would allow fundraising and federal financial aid for students. We thought everything was going along just fine, and this happened, and we were just in shock."

The school's third-floor café provided the clearest example of the shutdown's poor planning. For many students, the café was a center of campus social life, and they counted on the steady supply of affordable food. When the closure was announced, the café, lacking paid staff, simply stopped serving. Students went hungry.

"With all the infrastructure shut down, none of the students were able to purchase food on their cards," said Shon Parker, who was a full-time voice teacher at McNally. "The last week of school, there was a tremendous amount of students with no food."

Along with the kitchen manager, who also wasn't getting paid, Parker raided the institutional-sized fridges and pantries. They extracted whatever they could find.

They cooked it all, serving up pulled pork, cold-cut sandwiches, gluten-free pasta, and more. Meanwhile, local businesses like Pizza Lucé and Trader Joe's donated additional meals for the hungry, despondent students.



ALEX UHRICH

"It was completely volunteer work by all those involved," Parker says. "A couple former students came in and helped, which was really awesome. It felt like a family to a lot of people, and when family's in trouble you step up and help out."

Other Twin Cities colleges have closed over the years, but none has been so badly managed as McNally Smith. When the nearby College of Visual Arts shut down in 2013, school officials gave everyone six months' warning. Staff were available (and paid) to make sure credits would transfer to nearby schools, like the Minneapolis College of Art and Design.

At McNally, by contrast, students and staff had no warning and no help. And it all happened just before Christmas.

"All the students would have to be out [of student housing] by the Christmas Eve deadline," Kevin Schwandt says. "It was one of the many different ways that McNally poured as much salt into the wound as possible. And residents life staff would be homeless, because they also lived there."

Because the school was a privately held institution, there is no paper trail to fill in the backstory that led to its financial ruin.

Back in 2001, Jack McNally and Doug Smith, both guitar teachers who had started a school called MusicTech, were essentially gifted the vacant building that had formerly housed the Science Museum of Minnesota. The city of St. Paul sold the property for \$1, and, as a deal sweetener, kicked in \$1 million in city-backed financing. Within a few years, MusicTech was renamed to honor its two founders, who held the majority of its shares.

Today that building is worth between \$13 and \$19 million, according to county assessors.

"Everyone's looking for answers," says Liz Brooks, who graduated from McNally Smith in the nick of time, but has friends who didn't.

As recently as 2013, the school was doing well enough that then-Mayor Chris Coleman declared February 15 to be Jack McNally Day in St. Paul. The two went way back—30 years prior, McNally had been Coleman's guitar teacher—and the school had enjoyed special treatment since its founding.

Aside from its \$1 price tag and \$1 million signing bonus, McNally Smith was granted a property tax waiver, as though it were another of St. Paul's many nonprofits. The exemption saved the school (and cost the city) about a half-million dollars a year.

But Jack McNally Day proved to be a final high point. Over the past decade, enrollment declined. Students grew used to overburdened staff and unannounced cuts to services.

Tom Loftus, who worked as the director of alumni services until 2016, saw the downward slide first-hand.

"Every summer I worked there, they were making big cuts across the board," Loftus said. "They were hacking and chopping up marketing, student services, career services—left and right they kept cutting and cutting."

When Loftus found out one morning that the student counseling staff had been quietly eliminated, he decided to leave. Even today, describing the distant decisions of leadership of McNally and Smith, Loftus is upset.

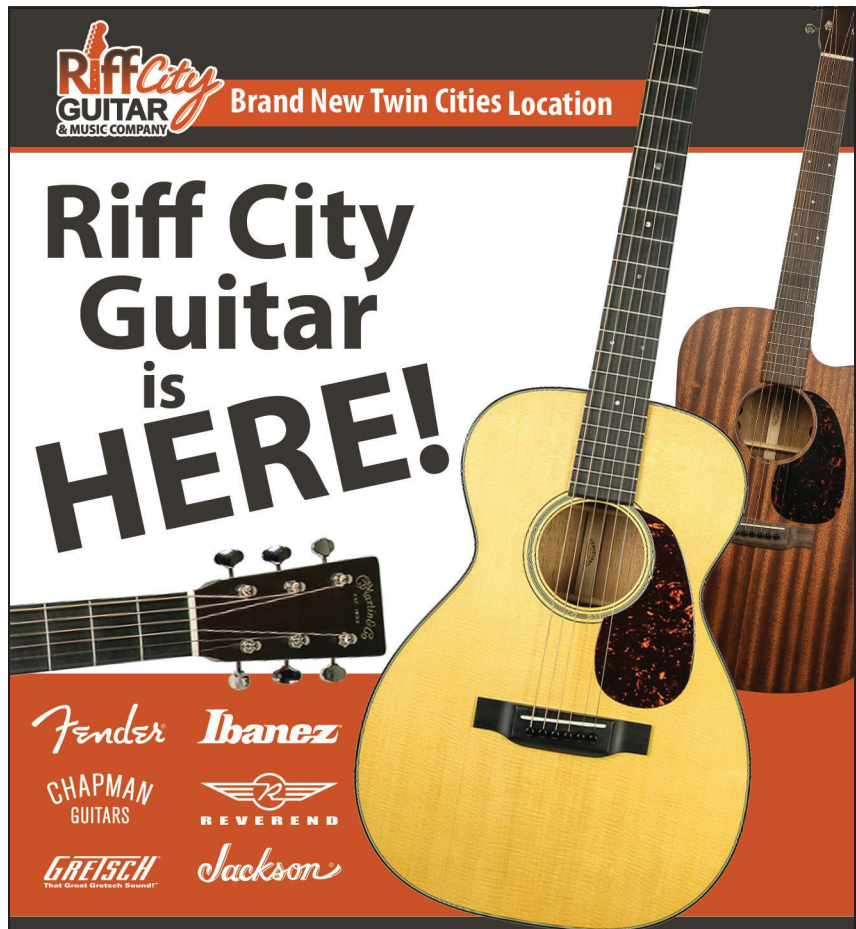
"When money was good, they were fine," Loftus said, "but behind the scenes they made a lot of decisions that impacted the way that students were served."

After the closure was announced, it transformed the lives of hundreds of people overnight.



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Liz Brooks was one of the lucky ones, because she graduated with her music production degree just as the school closed.

"It sounds dramatic, but my life split into two halves," Brooks said. "I wasn't sure if I was going to still get my degree, and have a graduation ceremony, and what my friends would do. I worked at the school café for over a year and lost my job, and I lost my school in a three-paragraph email."

Brooks still thinks every day about her friends from McNally who didn't make it out, and how much they lost due to the timing of the closure. To make matters worse, many of her friends had already paid their tuition for the aborted spring semester. She describes how they lost their jobs, school, and health insurance.

"Everyone's looking for answers," says Brooks. "No one has ever heard from Jack [McNally] or Doug [Smith] except for [one interview with] MPR. They sit there and Jack will defend himself, and talk about the situation, but he hasn't said shit to any of us."

In fact, McNally refused to do a taped interview with MPR's reporter, and declined to get into specifics about the school's finances, aside from the fact that enrollment was down and costs were up. Asked about rumors he and Smith had become "millionaires" running the school, McNally laughed for "about 10 seconds," according to the reporter, before saying the school founders were "just guitar teachers who decided to start a school, and it just grew and grew."

Attempts to reach Jack McNally and Doug Smith through their bankruptcy attorney for comment on this story were unsuccessful.

McNally and Smith, who own the school outright, filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy in February. The 112-page filing—with more than 100 of those pages taken up by a list of its hundreds of creditors—shows the school's assets vastly outweigh its estimated debts. The difference is significant: Assets, which would include both the building and all of the school's equipment, are listed as between \$10 and \$50 million, and debts are between \$1 and \$10 million.

The ex-students who spoke for this story each offered a different perspective on the end of McNally Smith. Though people's ability to endure the episode varied, for most it was a huge financial, logistical, and emotional blow. Everyone wants answers.

Cathryn Davis, a 65-year-old composition student who moved from Washington State to attend McNally Smith, calls it "the cruelest, meanest thing that's probably ever happened to me."



ALEX UHRICH

She explains: "Most national universities will not accept credit from McNally Smith. It's very limited, the schools that I can go to."

Davis is looking to transfer to a local school in a smaller location. McNally's lack of accreditation leaves her with only a handful of choices, including Lawrence University in Wisconsin and Berklee College of Music in Boston.

Until last December, 21-year-old Alex Huther was happy with the school. Today, he feels betrayed.

Huther is a Tennessee native who had counted on his McNally Smith network for employment as a drummer at local theaters. He was set to graduate with a degree in drumset performance in 2019, but is now looking for another school outside of the music industry.

"It kind of also made me cynical about higher education," Huther said. "It feels like there's people in positions of power that I've never met before making decisions that are going to affect me for years and years and we can't do shit about it. A lot of bad decisions were made and maybe things could have been avoided. Things like this don't happen overnight. This is millions of dollars, and it doesn't just disappear."

For international students it was especially troubling, as their visa status depended on being enrolled at the school.

Alex Huther used McNally Smith connections for drumming work, but is now looking for a school unrelated to the music industry.

Back in Sparta, Isaac Hendrickson is living with his parents, and he finally found a local job that will help him start paying off his student loans—McNally Smith may get to wipe out some of its debt in bankruptcy court, but educational lenders still expect payment from its students. He's working on the details of transferring to Winona State University, though the specifics of the deal leave a lot to be desired.

"As far as I know right now, it sounds like none of my credits will transfer except for one English credit," he says. "But I will be able to test out on most of my classes, so I'm not starting over entirely. I just feel like it needs to be said that there was a lot of things that could have been done, other than just closing the school down."

His resilience bespeaks the optimism of ambitious youth. But unanswered questions linger for Hendrickson, Huther, and many others.

"I hope that at some point we get an apology or an explanation," says Liz Brooks. "But I'm not going to hold my breath."

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TONY NELSON

BY STACY BROOKS

Taprooms and wine bars serving drink flights have the right idea: There's something satisfying about sampling a bit of a lot of things.

Partly it's because you don't need to make up your mind—you can get the stout and the IPA and the pilsner! There's also the cuteness factor, as a lineup of little glasses hits the same soft spot as a basketful of kittens. And don't discount the age-old wisdom from grandma about how the best things in life come in small packages.

Beyond beer and wine, the Twin Cities offers up an array of food flights, too, so you can go forth and indulge in perfectly portioned morsels of colorful mini doughnuts, edible cookie dough, caviar, and more.

Housed in a 19th-century building near U.S. Bank Stadium that's served as a hospital and a plumbing supply store (and maybe even a brothel), **Day Block Brewing Company** is a brewpub serving globally influ-

enced pizzas, sandwiches, and bar snacks. The menu features not one but two food flights. The nine-strip bacon option (\$11) is a sampling of three different house-cured meats with accompanying sauces. Flavors change frequently, but current cured delights include buffalo bacon with blue cheese and smoked bacon with French toast syrup, while past creations range from chocolate-covered strips with peanut butter mousse to a brat-seasoned bacon with beer cheese. Vegetarians need not despair: Day Block also has a rotating pickle flight with a selection of seasonal house-pickled vegetables, from a cucumber pickle and kimchi to curry cauliflower and rosemary-pickled grapes (\$6, \$3 during happy hour). *1105 Washington Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-617-7793, dayblockbrewing.com*

Seven Corners brewpub **Town Hall Brewery** gets bonus points for the beer-flight-style presentation of their chicken tenders flight (\$12). The sauces—barbecue, chipotle buffalo, and honey chipotle—are served in glasses arranged on a paddle, with

the tenders carefully nestled inside. It's easily shareable, with about nine per order plus a biscuit. Elsewhere on the menu is a snack-friendly flight with fresh tortilla chips, guacamole, and a trio of salsas: roja, verde, and ranchera (\$9). *1430 Washington Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-339-8696, townhallbrewery.com*

A downtown Minneapolis standby since 1946, **Murray's** offers an opportunity to splurge on classic steakhouse fare in elegant, vintage surroundings. While the portions might not exactly be sample-size, the steak flight for two (\$99) does allow diners to try a few different cuts of the restaurant's iconic meats, with a 10-ounce New York strip sirloin, 8-ounce ribeye, and 6-ounce tenderloin. Sides aren't included, but do yourself a favor and spring for the French onion soup (\$6) and au gratin potatoes (\$6). *26 S. Sixth St., Minneapolis; 612-339-0909, murraysrestaurant.com*

The market-priced caviar flight at Uptown's Soviet-themed **Hammer and Sickle** is another special-occasion-wor-

thy treat—at the moment, it'll set you back \$100. The splurge includes three caviars: whitefish, a fresh, crisp caviar noted for its lack of saltiness; cuttlefish, one with rich, earthy notes; and ossetra royal, a prized caviar with large, dark pearls and a bold, nutty essence. The flight is served with blini (crepe-like Russian pancakes), sour cream, an assortment of pickles, and a Russian egg—a hard-boiled egg soaked in beet juice and deviled. And because no caviar flight would be complete without a shot of vodka, order one from a rotating selection of house-infused vodkas like horseradish, dill, honey, apple cinnamon, strawberry rhubarb, or lemon basil. *1300 Lagoon Ave. #150, Minneapolis; 612-367-4035, hammerandsicklempls.com*

Cold Front is a nostalgic soda fountain with house-made sodas, coffee drinks made with Dogwood espresso, and classic ice cream concoctions. The Hamline neighborhood hit sources super premium ice cream from Madison's Chocolate Shoppe Ice Cream, with a rotating selection of 16 flavors. You could order a waffle cone or sundae, but why not try the snowball flight, an adorable lineup of four mini cones topped with one-ounce scoops (\$4.75)? Popular treats include the saltily named and appropriately savory "This \$&@! Just Got Serious," a salted caramel ice cream with sea salt fudge and salted cashews; Iced Latte-Da, a caffeinated espresso ice cream with fudge swirls and chocolate chunks; and Zanzibar Chocolate, made with three kinds of cocoa for a rich taste reminiscent of a fudgy brownie. Kids love the brightly hued Superman ice cream; for their grown-ups, there's Exhausted Parent, a bourbon-spiked espresso ice cream with bittersweet chocolate chunks. *490 Hamline Ave., St. Paul; 651-330-7632, coldfrontmstp.com*

In addition to luscious hand pies and those iconic Minnesota cookies, **Groundswell's** menu of vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free fare features a flight of four full-sized cupcakes (\$10) from their in-house bakery. The chocolate blackout cupcake is always on hand: Made with fair-trade chocolate, it's a chocolate espresso cake filled with milk chocolate mousse and topped with bittersweet chocolate ganache and espresso whipped cream. Another constant is the

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salted honey-caramel cheesecake cupcake: a vanilla graham cake with vanilla cheesecake filling crowned with whipped cream, honey caramel sauce, and a sprinkling of kosher salt. Other options change monthly, with at least one seasonal specialty and one gluten-free cupcake. Recent flavors have included a gluten-free tiramisu cupcake with an espresso mascarpone filling and a chocolate-covered strawberry cupcake. 1340 Thomas Ave., St. Paul; 651-645-6466, groundswellmn.com

Sleepy V's serves up flights of four mini doughnuts (\$5) at a storefront in Northeast's Sheridan neighborhood (which opened as Rebel Donut Bar late last year). While the colorful lineup changes daily, lemon poppyseed and pineapple hibiscus typically make the cut. Frequent rotating favorites include cookie dough, maple bacon, blueberry pancake, and coffee toffee. If you need a weekend mini-doughnut fix, swing by early—the shop often sells out. 1226 Second St. NE, Minneapolis; sleepyvvs.com

We all know that the best part of baking cookies is eating the dough, but the FDA advises against playing Russian roulette with salmonella and E. coli. Luckily, we have **Dough Dough** to supply the Twin Cities with safe-to-eat cookie dough via a food truck and a spot at the Mall of America. The edible cookie dough is sold by the scoop in bowls or cones, or you can opt for a mini scoop flight (five scoops for \$6 or seven for \$8). Flavors include classics like chocolate chip, salted caramel, monster, and celebration, a sugar cookie dough with sprinkles. There's also a Five Watt Coffee flavor, which uses Five Watt's cold press concentrate to replace moisture in the dough base, and a s'more dough that swaps out a portion of the flour for graham cracker crumbs. 372 E. Broadway, Bloomington; 612-547-8859, doughdoughmn.com

Hot Indian Foods aims to bring Indian cuisine to a broad audience by packaging traditional dishes in easy-to-devour formats, like the roti-wrapped Indurrito. Customers can order this tasty fare as a HI flight, mix-and-match either three Indi tacos or three mini rice bowls (\$10). Pro tip: If you'd prefer to eat your lunch out of one container and don't mind a little commingling, the staff is happy to serve your flight of three fillings atop a standard-sized rice bowl. Tacos feature house-made roti shells, and rice bowls are built on a base of brown basmati rice flavored with coconut milk and garlic. Fillings include chicken tikka, lamb, spinach paneer, chana (masala sauce with chickpeas), and aloo gobi (potatoes, cauliflower, and squash simmered in a tomato curry). Top off your flight with the house-made slaw, a sprinkling of cilantro, and your choice of chutney. 920 E. Lake St., Minneapolis; 612-236-4423, hotindianfoods.com



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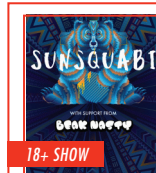
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SATURDAY Danai Gurira's *Familiar* opens at the Guthrie P. 25

TUESDAY Feminist insights at the Walker P. 27

WEDNESDAY 3.7

ART/GALLERY SITUATIONS

GALLERY 71

For "Situations," four of the region's most daring visual artists will showcase works that elevate simplicity into poignant representations of presence and loss. Paula McCartney's photography features luminosity and sharp darkness, Shana Kaplow's inks bleed into absence, Anne George's collages explore the liminality of materiality, and Mary Bergs' reverse cut-outs challenge our sense of being and nothingness. There will be a public reception from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, March 7, and an artists' talk at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 7. Free. 7161 France Ave. S., Edina; 952-835-5000.

Through April 28 —CAMILLE LEFEVRE

COMEDY

FRANKIE QUINONES

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"My standup is a lot of storytelling and a lot of voices," says comedian Frankie Quinones, who makes his Minneapolis debut this week. "When I started doing standup I did some character work, and I would do those live onstage." He also started making videos, which he still produces, featuring the various characters. "In the beginning they probably weren't very good," he laughs, "but the characters started developing." Those characters are based primarily on family, friends, and people Quinones grew up around. "What I've been doing onstage lately," he explains, "is I'll do a set as myself, then a set as my character Juanita Carmelita, and then I do a set as Creeper, the fitness instructor. I come up onstage three different times at shows." He estimates he has seven solid characters in his repertoire, and is developing more. "I love people-watching, but most of the characters are based on people I've met. I've met some pretty interesting people." 18+. 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday; 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. \$15-\$18. 708 N. First St., Minneapolis; 612-338-6393. Through Saturday —P.F. WILSON



Local artist Lauren Roche looks to the past in a subversive show at the Bockley.

LAUREN ROCHE, COLLECTED VESSELS

THURSDAY 3.8

MARKET

FEMNIST NIGHT MARKET

GRAIN BELT BOTTLING HOUSE

This Thursday, the Grain Belt Bottling House hosts the FeMNist Night Market, an evening dedicated to highlighting local, women-owned businesses, artists, and makers. Shop for gifts or pick something up for yourself. Vendors include Mochiis, makers of comfy shoes; Everthine, designers of gorgeous jewelry; and Fontlove Studio, printers of posters celebrating Minnesota love. Score a "Feminist as Fuck" silver bracelet, or take home a cross-stitch piece bearing sage words from Tina of *Bob's Burgers*. The event is in conjunction with FeMNist Day 2018 Un-Conference, where women will meet to share their professional ideas and experiences. Both happenings are organized by Still Kickin', Nora McInerney's charity that helps people with skyrocketing medical bills. 5

to 10 p.m. Free. 79 13th Ave. NE, Minneapolis. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

ART/GALLERY

KAREN SHERMAN: MINOR BODIES

HAIR AND NAILS GALLERY

Karen Sherman, iconic performer and one of the most inventive makers of choreographic language in the U.S., is also a visual artist. Gosh. Who knew? She's making her debut with this exhibition, "Minor Bodies." There are some spiky sculptures resembling pine cones and cat-o-nine-tails, but with surfaces honed to a silky smoothness. Also on view are objects and drawings exploring such diverse epistemologies as the nature of animal sentience, astronomy, and the body. The show is part of a three-part project, titled *Universal Donor*, that continues next year with a dance-based work. There will be an opening reception from 7 to 10 p.m. Thursday, March 8, and an artist's talk at 7 p.m.

Thursday, March 15. Free. 2222 1/2 E. 35th St., Minneapolis; 612-229-0585.

Through March 31 —CAMILLE LEFEVRE

COMEDY

ORNY ADAMS

RICK BRONSON'S HOUSE OF COMEDY

Orny Adams is relentless, as his latest Showtime special, *More Than Loud*, demonstrates. "I think it's from working the road so much," he says. "I'm nonstop in front of audiences so I feel like I have to grab their attention, keep it, and I'm constantly fighting. They're trying to get a drink or the check just came. If I had down time in my act, I would lose my energy and lose my enthusiasm." Onstage these days he's mixing material from his special with newer bits. Fans seem to like the balance. "Fans love when I do the old stuff they've seen," he says. "It's exciting for them and it's really interesting. I've never experienced anything like this. People are coming to see me because

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23 ►

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MAR 15
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MAR 16
PINK TALKING FISH
SPRING TOUR 2018
WITH FRE3KBASS

MAR 18
OMD
WITH GGOOLDD, DJ JAKE RUDH (TRANSMISSION)

MAR 23
SURLY BREWING PRESENTS
+1 LAUNCH PARTY FEATURING THE BLACK ANGELS
THE BIRDS AND THE BEES TOUR
WITH BLACK LIPS

MAR 27
WOLF ALICE
WITH THE BIG PINK

MAR 28
89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS
AN EVENING WITH YO LA TENGO

MAR 30
89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS
JEREMY MESSERSMITH
WITH MONICA LAPLANTE

MAR 31
89.3 THE CURRENT, ELECTRIC FETUS, AND SURLY BREWING PRESENT
TRANSMISSION: THE '80S
A NIGHT OF POP/ROCK/NEW WAVE/HIP-HOP/R&B
FT. DJ JAKE RUDH

APR 03
PHILLIP PHILLIPS: THE MAGNETIC TOUR
WITH THE BALLROOM THIEVES

APR 05
89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS
MARGARET GLASPY
WITH BUCK MECK

APR 07
89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS
TY SEGALL

APR 08
89.3 THE CURRENT PRESENTS
BUILT TO SPILL
WITH RITUALS OF MINE, BLACK BELT EAGLE SCOUT

APR 11
THE WOOD BROTHERS
WITH NICKI BLUHM

APR 14
MARGO PRICE
NOWHERE FAST TOUR
WITH BLACKFOOT GYPSIES

APR 15
CIGARETTES AFTER SEX

APR 16
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WITH TOKYO POLICE CLUB

APR 17
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APR 19
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WITH DEATH VALLEY GIRLS

APR 20
SKIZZY MARS

APR 21
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APR 22
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APR 23
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🏆 BEST CONCERT VENUE - CITY PAGES 2017

APR 03

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FT. ROBERT FINLEY, SHANNON SHAW
W/ SHANNON AND THE CLAMS

MAY 06

DR. DOG
CRITICAL EQUATION TOUR
W/ SON LITTLE

MAY 16

MARIAN HILL
W/ MICHL

MAY 17

LAKE STREET DIVE
W/ LIZ VICE

AUG 01

BEN HARPER & CHARLIE MUSSELWHITE

AUG 11

PUNCH BROTHERS
W/ MADISON CUNNINGHAM

UP NEXT 7TH ST ENTRY

MIKE LOVE
W/ JUNGLE MAN SAM (Solo)
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

GOOD OLD WAR AND JUSTIN NOZUKA
W/ RIVER MATTHEWS
THURSDAY, MARCH 8

MARLON WILLIAMS
W/ TINY RUINS
FRIDAY, MARCH 9

M McNASTY BRASS BAND
W/ FIVE ALARM FUNK
SATURDAY, MARCH 10

UP NEXT TURF CLUB

🏆 BEST MUSIC RESIDENCY, BEST JUKEBOX - CITY PAGES 2017

JULIAN MANZARA BAND, ILLUSION VALLEY, LASKA
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

THE RAILSPLITTERS
W/ BARBARO, LITTLE RIDDLES
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14

NO FICTION FESTIVAL: SPCO
THURSDAY, MARCH 15

TITUS ANDRONICUS
W/ RICK MAGUIRE from PILE
SATURDAY, MARCH 17

THE IKE REILLY ASSASSINATION
W/ BRENDAN O'SHEA
SUNDAY, MARCH 18

SHAWN JAMES
W/ SWALLOWS (Acoustic)
MONDAY, MARCH 19

CURTIS HARDING
TUESDAY, MARCH 20

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PERFORMS 'ASLEEP AT HEAVEN'S GATE'
W/ DEAR BOY
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

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W/ CREEPY PODCAST
THE CEDAR
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

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PIET GOETHALS

CONTINUED FROM THURSDAY ►

they've seen me in something standup related." While he's still edgy in his performance, Adams' outrage now seems to come from a place of confidence. "I think that comes with age," he notes. "I think as you get older you don't care what people think about you. I'm fearless of failing. I've taken my act all over the world, and it's more relaxed now than it's ever been." 16+ later shows. 7:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday; 9:45 p.m. Friday; 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; 9:30 p.m. Saturday. \$16-\$23. 408 E. Broadway, Mall of America, Bloomington; 952-858-8558. **Through Sunday —P.F. WILSON**

FRIDAY 3.9

PARTY

BLOOD LUST BALL III

GAY 90'S

Along with the sparkly shenanigans of the drag shows upstairs, there will be blood, gore, and leather at the Gay 90's. You'll find kinky vampires, warlocks, and werewolves ready to party in the downtown danceteria's annex. In addition to a dance floor open all night, there will be a bondage fashion parade, aerial acts, fire performers, rope suspension, and pole dancing. Come as you are, be that a witch, familiar, zombie, or other ancient creature of the night. 18+. 10 p.m. to 3 a.m. \$10-\$15. 408 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis; 612-333-7755. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

DANCE

JAN MARTENS:
THE DOG DAYS ARE OVER

WALKER ART CENTER

What's in a jump? Belgian choreographer Jan Martens offers his version in a 70-minute work, *The Dog Days Are Over*,

in which eight dancers in running shoes perform every possible variation of that maneuver. Hopping, leaping, jiggling, and bouncing, they perform what one critic describes as "durational dance as a killer workout." Like the choreographer Sarah Michelson, whose work is frequently performed at the Walker, Martens unites severe formality and vigorous athleticism in ways that can boggle your mind and saturate your senses. And in these waning dog days of winter, it may even get you back to the gym. 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday. \$25; \$20 members. 725 Vineland Place, Minneapolis; 612-375-7600. **Through Saturday —LINDA SHAPIRO**

BOOKS

HARMON LEON

MAGERS & QUINN, DEAD MEDIA

If you're still wondering what the hell happened in November 2016, know that you're not alone. Journalist Harmon Leon is also pondering this question. For *Meet the Deplorables: Infiltrating Trump America*, he took a gonzo-style approach, going behind enemy lines undercover into Trump country. The book, created in collaboration with political cartoonist Ted Rall, takes a satirical, cutthroat look at some of the most horrific segments of conservative areas of the country. That includes researching purity ring ceremonies, gun store weddings, gay conversion therapy, and hate groups. This Saturday, Harmon will pay a visit to Dead Media as part of the Riot Act Reading Series, where he'll give a multimedia presentation and will be joined by local writers. He'll also be stopping by Magers & Quinn the day before. 7 p.m. Free. Friday at Magers & Quinn Booksellers (3038 Hennepin Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-822-4611); Saturday at Dead Media

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25 ►

SPOON GRIZZLYBEAR
GRIZZLYBEAR SPOON
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ART/GALLERY

THEY/THEM

LUSH

This Friday, Lush celebrates people who reject gender binaries. Photographer Brent Dundore's *They/Them* project offers a larger platform for non-binary folks and the greater transgender community. Dundore's gorgeous photography will be on display, and guests will have the opportunity to learn more about the people who participated. That list includes theater artists Hal Sansone, Jesse Pollock-Foote, and Xochi de la Luna; burlesque performer Jean Luc Dicard; filmmaker Joe Ippolito; drag king Mikko Blaze Bordeaux; and unparalleled community leader Roxanne Anderson.

Local organizations and nonprofits from the Twin Cities that support the diverse gender nonconforming community will also be on hand. Come for the mingling and stay for the deals, including happy hour drinks and appetizers. Donations collected will go toward trans organizations. You can also check out photography, interviews, and videos from the project at theythemproject.org. 5 to 10 p.m. (5 to 7 p.m. are youth- and family-friendly hours). 990 Central Ave. NE, Minneapolis; 612-208-0358.

—SHEILA REGAN



BRENT DUNDORE PHOTOGRAPHY

CONTINUED FROM FRIDAY ►

(3330 E. 25th St., Minneapolis; 612-222-1655). Also Saturday —SHEILA REGAN

ART/GALLERY

LAUREN ROCHE:
COLLECTED VESSELS

BOCKLEY GALLERY

Local artist Lauren Roche is returning to Bockley Gallery for her second solo exhibition in the space. "Collected Vessels" features five mixed-media works on paper. A self-taught artist originally from Santa Rosa, California, Roche moved to Minneapolis in 2006. With her piercing imagery and bold sense of color, she's the kind of artist that steals the show any time she is presented with other artists. Roche uses an intense theatricality in her works, and her latest pieces are filled with lounging exotic animals and nude women in ritualistic paint. Featuring browns, reds, and other earth tones, these pieces have an ancient quality, as if viewers are peering at works from an earlier civilization. Fantastical jungles erupt into living-room domestic scenes, with Roche's idiosyncratic figures and abstract gestures dazzling with an extemporaneous sensibility. At once serene, surreal, and utterly captivating, this is a series you will want to see in person. There will be an opening reception from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, March 9. 2122 W. 21st St., Minneapolis; 612-377-4669. Through April 14 —SHEILA REGAN

SATURDAY 3.10

FESTIVAL

LUCKYPALOOZA

WEST SEVENTH STREET

Twin Cities denizens can be counted on to risk the notoriously unpredictable March weather to partake in downtown St. Paul's annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, turning out in droves to make the event one of the most heavily attended of the year. Those who are impatient, however, can start their springtime celebration early with LuckyPalooza, an outdoor festival that takes place one week before the parade. Taking over two blocks, the Irish-themed event embodies the recent renaissance of the West Seventh neighborhood, as the numerous bars and restaurants open their doors to the roving revelry. Centered among three tent parties (hosted by Burger Moe's, Cosetta's, and Patrick McGovern's), LuckyPalooza promises entertainment from the afternoon into the wee hours with the opening of the street to an array of vendors, food stands, and live music, including local country musician Chris Hawkey. Those feeling particularly bold can test their mettle on a mechanical bull, allowing their fortune and folly to entertain the crowd. Find more info at www.visitsaintpaul.com. 2 p.m. to midnight. Free. West Seventh Street from Walnut Street to Kellogg Boulevard, St. Paul. —BRAD RICHASON

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27 ►

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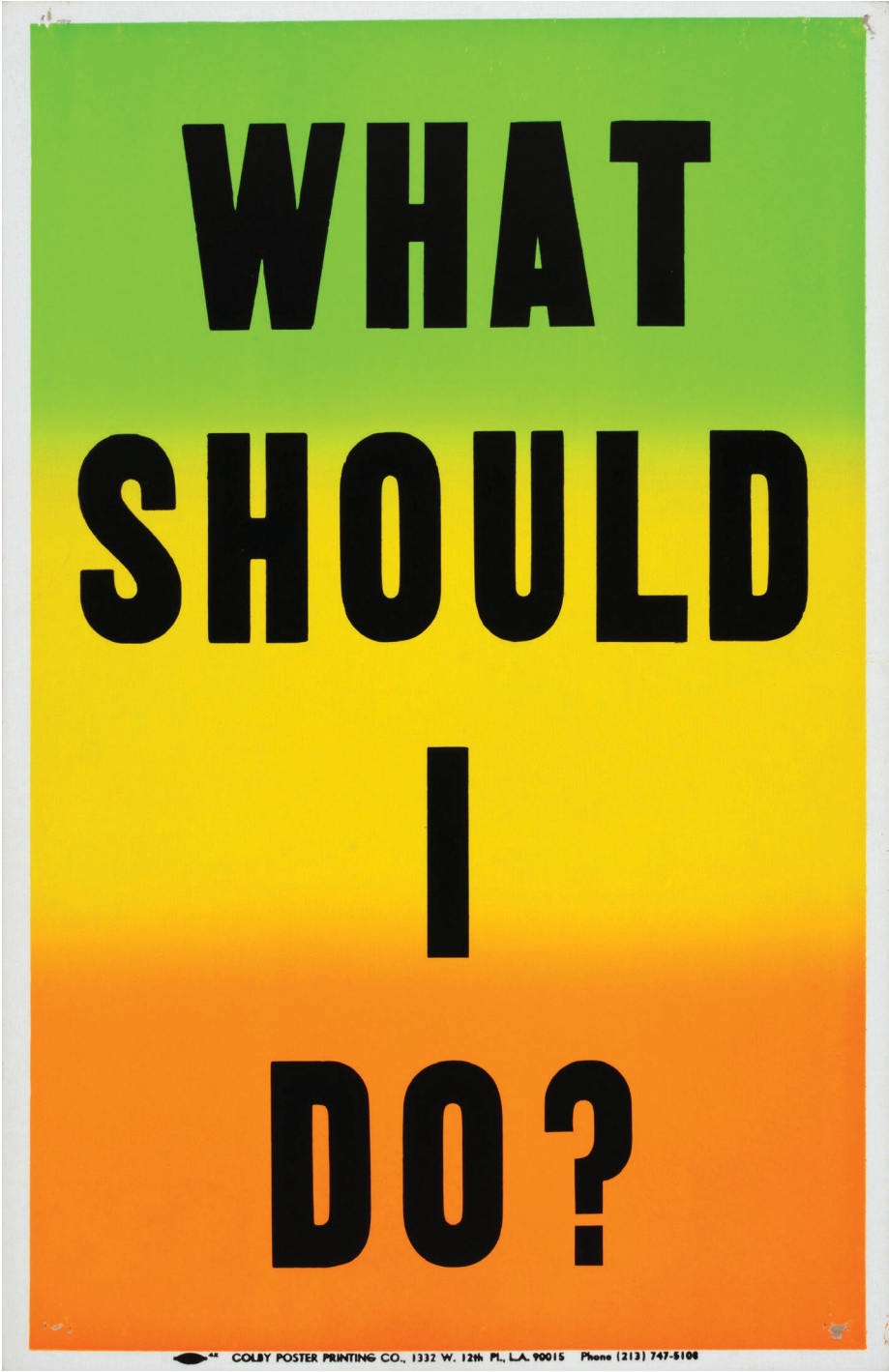
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Allen Ruppersberg, *The Novel That Writes Itself*, 2014 (detail)
Walker Art Center Library, Rosemary Furtak Collection
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Allen Ruppersberg: Intellectual Property 1968–2018 is organized by the Walker Art Center. Lead support for the exhibition is provided by the Henry Luce Foundation.



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After Hours: Allen Ruppersberg sponsor



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SHEILA LEVRANT DE BRETTEVILLE

CONTINUED FROM SATURDAY ►

ART/GALLERY**UNTITLED 14**

SOO VISUAL ARTS CENTER

"Untitled" is a show where you never quite know what you'll find. At this juried group exhibition you might spot an amazing photograph, a beautiful oil portrait, or a striking work of textile art. Now in its 14th year, this iteration will feature pieces by 17 artists. Expect art challenging U.S. politics, works examining queer identity, and efforts exploring a variety of other topics. There will be an opening reception from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, March 10. Free. 2909 Bryant Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-871-2263. **Through April 15 —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER**

THEATER**FAMILIAR**

GUTHRIE THEATER

Familiar is a timely comedy-drama by rising playwright (and Macalester College alum) Danai Gurira. Known for her roles on AMC's *The Walking Dead* and in *Black Panther*, Gurira is also an astute writer who has earned critical acclaim for her culturally nuanced stage work. *Familiar* demonstrates Gurira's knack for humor in telling the story of Donald and Marvelous Chinyaramwira, a thriving Zimbabwean-American couple whose daughter Tendi is preparing to marry Chris, a white man from an entirely different background. Whereas some might view this blending of cultures as being symbolic of the American dream, others may see an abdication of cultural identity. Such are the clashing perspectives within the family, especially when relatives (including an outspoken aunt) let

their objections be known. Beneath all the squabbling, however, beats an affectionate heart for a family striving for reconciliation. The soulful humor inherent to this Taibi Magar-directed, Minnesota-set production is certain to feel close to home. The show is in previews March 10-15. 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays; 1 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays; 7 p.m. Sundays. Check online for additional showtimes. \$29-\$77. 818 S. Second St., Minneapolis; 612-377-2224.

Through April 14 —BRAD RICHASON

TUESDAY 3.13

TALKS**2018 INSIGHTS DESIGN LECTURE SERIES**

WALKER ART CENTER

The Insights Design series continues with Sheila Levrant de Bretteville, who has put women's education and advancement at the forefront of her practice throughout her five decades as a graphic designer. In her presentation, Bretteville will discuss the conditions that led her to found the first design program for women at CalArts, to co-create the Feminist Studio Workshop, and to run the Woman's Building and the Women's Graphic Center. She was also the first woman to receive tenure at Yale University School of Art. Gender equality informs all of her work. She's also a public artist, is considered a "design legend" by AIGA, and is a co-presenter of this series with the Walker Art Center. 7 p.m. \$24 per lecture; \$72 series package; \$19-\$57 Walker and AIGA members; \$10-\$30 students. 725 Vineland Place, Minneapolis; 612-375-7600. **—CAMILLE LEFEVRE**

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A HEDY HISTORY

Bombshell: The Hedy Lamarr Story flaunts the brains behind the beauty



Hedy Lamarr

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BY TONY LIBERA

Classic Hollywood starlets didn't typically spend their free time working on new torpedo technology, but Hedy Lamarr was anything but typical. Once considered the most beautiful woman in the world, the Austrian-born Jewish runaway defied expectations at every turn. Hers was a life of fame and countless trials, but her inventive spirit would help lay the foundations for GPS, secure wi-fi, and Bluetooth.

In the new documentary *Bombshell: The Hedy Lamarr Story*, director Alexandra Dean looks to unearth a version of Lamarr's life that has been largely untold. The 1966 ghost-written "autobiography" *Ecstasy and Me: My Life As A Woman* was frequently knocked by Lamarr as inaccurate and even outright made-up, so *Bombshell*—built around Forbes reporter Fleming Meeks' 1990 audio tapes—is arguably one of the few records of her life the movie star would actually sign off on.

From the outset, it's a fascinating tale. After gaining notoriety from a nude appearance in the Czech film *Ecstasy*, Lamarr—then Hedwig Kiesler—married a

munitions tycoon who liked to rub elbows with Mussolini and company. When that life became unbearable, she escaped with a bunch of jewels and made her way to England where she met MGM's Louis B. Mayer. He offered her a small contract, which she refused. She then booked passage on Mayer's ship to America, dressed herself to the nines, and dazzled everybody aboard until Mayer inevitably offered her a larger contract.

Lamarr's looks were always an asset, but they belied her intelligence. Under her MGM contract, Lamarr would be on set six days a week. She was given speed to keep her functional and sleeping pills to put her out. Yet during the rigors of those years, she would still find the time to work on her inventions. Howard Hughes, one of the few people who appreciated her brains, gave her access to his facilities and scientists. With WWII raging and U-boats dominating the seas, Lamarr worked with her composer friend George Antheil to patent a frequency-hopping system that couldn't be jammed by the Germans. The government shelved the idea, presumably due to the owners' unorthodox backgrounds, and it wasn't touched again until decades later.

BOMBSHELL: THE HEDY LAMARR STORY

directed by Alexandra Dean
now open, Lagoon Cinema

Lamarr's story deserves a wider audience. In a world that fetishizes the likes of Marilyn Monroe, it's a shame that Hedy Lamarr is largely forgotten, her name remembered by grandparents and film buffs or as passing trivia. The term "feminist icon" gets thrown around a lot these days, but Lamarr is an undoubtable prototype. In an era when female movie stars were only expected to be a pretty face, Lamarr was an inventor, a single mother, a producer, and more. Despite the tribulations she faced, she never lost her curiosity or the determination that a person can be more than what others think of them. If her ambition exceeded her talent in some capacities, her effort against the odds is still worthy of praise.

Bombshell: The Hedy Lamarr Story is an intimate and empirical telling of a truly fascinating life. The film gives us newfound appreciation for an unsung hero, and that's surely a sign of success. It's unfortunate that it took so long for a piece like this to reach the silver screen, but it's better late than never. **A**

2018 ST. PATRICK'S WEEKEND

FRIDAY, MARCH 16TH

8 AM

Green Beer Tapped and Bar Open

7 PM – MIDNIGHT

Live Performance by The Tim Malloys

SATURDAY, ST. PATRICK'S DAY

8 AM

Green Beer Tapped and Bar Open

11 AM – 1 PM

K102 Chris Carr & Company Appearance

11 AM – 1 PM

Live Performance by Holy Ground
(Club Donegal)

1 PM – 3 PM

Live Performance by Cole Thomas

3 PM – 6 PM

Live Performance by Jane Plank

3:30 PM – 4:15 PM

Bagpipes March and Performance

4 PM – 5 PM

Irish Dancers Perform (Hotel Lobby)

6:30 PM – MIDNIGHT

Live Performance by
The Tim Malloys

8 PM – 1 AM

DJ in Donegal Club Lounge

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7 AM – NOON

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LOU BEDOR III

BY JAY GABLER

“For all the advances our world has made,” writes director Joseph Papke in a program note for *The Roaring Girl*, “people have changed very little in 400 years.” Classical Actors Ensemble’s spirited production of this prescient play demonstrates Papke’s point so vividly, you won’t know whether to laugh or cry.

Writers Thomas Middleton and Thomas Dekker have waited a while for their 1611 script to have its Twin Cities premiere, but it was worth it to have a production that opens with a band of actors in period costume tooting merrily away at Lily Allen’s wry rocker “LDN.”

Several more covers follow prior to the show and during intermission, but fortunately—except for an awkwardly interpolated “Bad Reputation”—Papke forgoes the postmodern approach in a production that honors the text and the spirit of this fascinating early modern play.

The eponymous Roaring Girl is Moll Cutpurse, inspired by the subversive historical figure of Mary Frith. Cutpurse goes about in trousers, making merry with men and refusing to be defined by her gender. Middleton and Dekker had great affection for Moll, shaming those who judge her by her dress instead of her character. Lovably embodied by Meredith Kind, this Cutpurse is a good-hearted bon vivant who’s blissfully comfortable in her own skin.

The play’s central plot turns on the suspicion of Sir Alexander (Randall J. Funk) that his son Sebastian (Avi Aharoni) is pursuing

THE ROARING GIRL

Gremlin Theatre
550 Vandalia St., St. Paul
1-888-71-TICKETS; through March 18

Moll. In fact, Sebastian is head over heels for Mary Fitzallard (Madeleine Farley), a noble soul who’s also unfairly scorned by his proud papa. In cahoots with Moll, the young couple set out to teach Sir Alexander a lesson about love and tolerance.

That’s just one of several stories to unfold in this sprawling play. Modern audiences could probably do without the subplots about a mistrusted tailor’s wife (Kaija Pellinen) and a rake (Joe Wiener) who’s exploiting the smitten wife (Samantha V. Papke) of the local apothecary (H. William Kirsch). Still, these side stories are played so warmly and accessibly that they avoid overstaying their welcome.

Papke and scenic designer Dietrich Poppen turn Gremlin Theatre’s thrust stage into a cozy village, with actors coming and going from all four corners. The play’s huge cast populates the band’s various configurations and provides a convivial roar every time a tavern door opens—which is often.

In an epilogue, Moll describes a painter who, in trying to satisfy everyone with his portrait of a woman, creates a visage combining theoretically ideal features to ultimately “monstrous” effect. The metaphor speaks to all—women in particular—who are judged for falling short of some fictional ideal. It’s both sobering and inspiring to see a Roaring Girl calling out that bullshit way back in the 17th century. **C**

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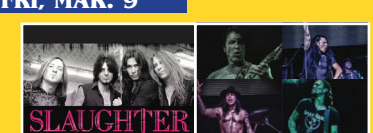
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Written by: Keona Tranby



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STREET *Style*

COUTURE & LEISURE Looks from the Miguel concert at Palace Theatre on March 2. **BY AMY GEE**



NATHAN BACCAM

21, STUDENT, SALES ASSOCIATE
AT FINISH LINE

What are you wearing?

I'm rocking an H&M beanie, anti-dust mask from Amazon, Forever 21 T-shirt and denim jacket, gold chain with a gold Ankh pendant, Michael Kors gold watch, Adidas pants and shoes.

Describe your style:

Cozy street style with an animated elevation.

Which artist/musician has the best style?

My top five are my guys Bryson Tiller, Frank Have Mercy, Chris Brown, Kendrick Lamar, and of course Miguel.



RYLEY HOFF

21, FULL-TIME FASHIONISTA

What are you wearing?

Top from Forever 21, the pants are my roomie's from Zara, and the jacket was a gift from my sister.

Describe your style:

When hoarder chic meets late disco.

Which artist/musician has the best style?

Rihanna!

One thing in your closet you can't live without:

My shiny red boots I was going to wear tonight but didn't because they wouldn't be visible.



NEOSHA THOMPSON

24, CEO OF NOMI SWIM,
ASPIRING MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

What are you wearing:

My entire outfit is from Forever 21.

Describe your style:

My style is very versatile. I prefer to look like a rock star at events. But the great thing about fashion is that there are no risks. My everyday wear depends on how I feel.

Where do you get your style inspiration?

My style inspiration is mostly from the '90s era. I love a good Janet Jackson look. High-waisted jeans are my favorite since they make my legs appear longer.



KHADEEGA GAZEY

24, STUDENT

What are you wearing?

My go-to comfy outfit by Missguided, jewelry from Buffalo Exchange, Vans shoes.

Describe your style:

I wear what makes me feel good.

Which artist/musician has the best style?

For sure Rihanna, she just doesn't give any f's.

Where do you get style inspiration?

I follow a lot of fashion bloggers on Instagram but I always make sure I stay true to myself.

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MUSIC CRITICS' PICKS

TY DOLLA \$IGN

FIRST AVENUE, WEDNESDAY 3.7

Reliably nasty Los Angeles R&B star Ty Dolla \$ign's first big look was the ratchet YG collaboration "Toot It and Boot It," which he would later call "my weakest piece of art." Frankly, he takes pride in his progressive approach to West Coast R&B. In the past couple years, he's had his biggest mainstream breakthrough, appearing on Fifth Harmony's "Work from Home," and delivered the anticipated third full-length in his *Beach House* series. His new mixtape with Chicago R&B singer Jeremih is due any day. 18+. 7 p.m. \$29.50/\$35. 701 First Ave. N., Minneapolis; 612-338-8388.

—MICHAEL MADDEN

SCREAMING FEMALES

TURF CLUB, FRIDAY 3.9

New Jersey punk power trio Screaming Females are a mainstay of the acclaimed indie label Don Giovanni, and its best band. Frontwoman Marissa Paternoster brings a towering vibrato and scorching lead guitar to their sound, and she's backed by the rhythm section of bassist Mike Abbate and drummer Jarrett Dougherty. Like 2015's *Rose Mountain*, the brand-new *All at Once* was made with veteran rock producer Matt Bayles (Soundgarden, Pearl Jam, Mastodon). With Radiator Hospital and Kitten Forever. 21+. 8 p.m. \$15. 1601 University Ave. St. Paul; 651-647-0486. —MICHAEL MADDEN

JA RULE AND ASHANTI

MYTH, SATURDAY 3.10

For nearly two decades, New York MC Ja Rule and singer/actress Ashanti have had a fruitful penchant for rap/R&B collaborations—usually songs about sex, including 2001's "Always on Time" and 2003's "Misserized" (which reached No. 1 and 2 on the Hot 100, respectively). The duo's legacy is widely beloved, which is why they were enlisted for *The Hamilton Mixtape* ("Helpless"), and California rap star Tyga's latest album features a tribute called "Ja Rule & Ashanti." With DJ Tiiiiiitiiip. All ages. 8 p.m. \$49.59/\$69.50. 3090 Southlawn Dr., St. Paul; 651-779-6984. —MICHAEL MADDEN

CONAN

7TH ST. ENTRY, SUNDAY 3.11

There's heavy, and then there's Conan-level heavy. The British doom-metal trio packs a supremely down-tuned wallop led by singer and guitarist Jon Davis—think High on Fire minus a few bong rips. The latest proper entry in their consistent run of albums is 2016's *Reveaenge*, where new drummer Rich Lewis seamlessly entered the lineup, followed by last year's demo collection, *Man Is Myth*. With the Ditch and the Delta and Boson. 18+. 7 p.m. \$12/\$14. 701 First Ave. N., Minneapolis; 612-338-8388. —MICHAEL MADDEN



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SAVAGE LOVE

The Porn Identity

Should I worry about my odd porn preferences?

I'm an 18-year-old cis hetero girl from Australia and I've been listening to your podcast and reading your column since I was 13. Thanks to you I'm pretty open minded about my sexuality and body. Having said that, I do have a few questions. I started watching porn from a youngish age with no real shame attached but I have some concerns.

1. I get off really quickly to lesbian porn but it never feels like a "good" orgasm. My guess is that subconsciously I think it's inauthentic and therefore degrading.

2. I really enjoy and have the best orgasms to vintage gay male porn and trans FTM porn, which seems odd because I'm so far removed from the sexual acts that these kind of porn movies portray but I always feel satisfied after getting off to them.

3. I get off to tit slapping videos but it screws with me morally. I understand why I like these kinds of videos. I have quite large breasts and I feel resentment towards them. It seems both morally wrong towards the progress I've made towards accepting my body and also to the message being sent about violence towards women.

Care to weigh in?

CONCERNED ABOUT PORN PREFERENCES

1. There are gay men who watch straight porn, lesbians who watch gay porn, and 18-year-old hetero girls in Australia who watch lesbian porn and vintage gay porn and trans FTM porn. So many people get off watching porn that isn't supposed to be for them that we have to view these quote/unquote transgressions as a feature of human sexuality, not a bug.

2. You feel conflicted after watching lesbian porn because it seems inauthentic. That's understandable—a lot of so-called lesbian porn is inauthentic, in that it's made by and for straight men and features non-lesbian women going through the lesbian motions (often with long and triggering-for-actual-lesbians fingernails). Some gay porn features gay-for-pay straight male actors, of course, but most gay porn features gay actors doing what they love; the same goes for most trans FTM porn, which is a small and mostly indie niche. I suspect your orgasms are just as good when you watch lesbian porn, CAPP, but the sense—sup-

pressed when you were turned on, surfacing once you're not—that the performers weren't really enjoying themselves taints your lesbian-porn-enhanced orgasms in retrospect. The solution? Seek out lesbian porn featuring actual lesbians.

3. Sometimes we overcome the negative messaging our culture sends us about our identities or bodies only after our erotic imaginations have seized on the fears or self-loathing induced by those mes-

sages and turned them into kinks. Take small-penis humiliation (SPH). Before a guy can ask a partner to indulge him in SPH, CAPP, he has to accept (and kind of dig) his small cock. So the acceptance is there, but the kink—a turn-on rooted in a resolved conflict—remains. So long as we seek out other consenting adults who respect us and our bodies, we can have our kinks

and our self-acceptance and self-esteem, too.

I have a deep-throating fetish. All the porn I watch is nothing but rough, sloppy blowjobs. I would love nothing more than to watch this kind of porn with my boyfriend, so we can add it the bedroom excitement, but I'm embarrassed to share this as a straight female. How do I go about sharing a fetish I have? Do I tell him over a candlelit dinner? Help!

DEEPTHROAT QUEEN

There's never really a bad time to tell someone they won the lottery, DQ. Over a candlelit dinner, pop in some porn, send him a singing telegram—however you decide to tell him, DQ, the odds that he'll react negatively are pretty low. Of course, watching someone deep throat and doing it yourself are two different things. You won't be able to go from disclosing your kink to realizing it during that candlelit dinner. Take it slow, maybe watch a few how-to videos in addition to the porn, find the positions and angles that work for you, etc., and work your way up to taking him all the way down.

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>> By Rob Brezsnay

♈ ARIES (March 21-April 19): The men who work on offshore oil rigs perform demanding, dangerous tasks on a regular basis. If they make mistakes, they may get injured or be hurt by the sea with petroleum. As you might guess, the culture on these rigs has traditionally been macho, stoic, and hard-driving. But in recent years, that has changed at one company. Shell Oil's workers in the U.S. were trained by Holocaust survivor Claire Nuer to talk about their feelings, be willing to admit errors, and soften their attitudes. As a result, the company's safety record has improved dramatically. If macho dudes toiling on oil rigs can become more vulnerable and open and tenderly expressive, so can you, Aries. And now would be a propitious time to do it.

♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20): How will you celebrate your upcoming climax and culmination, Taurus? With a howl of triumph, a fist pump, and three cartwheels? With a humble speech thanking everyone who helped you along the way? With a bottle of champagne, a gourmet feast, and spectacular sex? However you choose to mark this transition from one chapter of your life story to the next chapter, I suggest that you include an action that will help the next chapter get off to a rousing start. In your ritual of completion, plant seeds for the future.

♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20): On April 23, 1516, the German duchy of Bavaria issued a decree. From that day forward, all beer produced had to use just three ingredients: water, barley, and hops. Ever since then, for the last 500+ years, this edict has had an enduring influence on how German beer is manufactured. In accordance with astrological factors, I suggest that you proclaim three equally potent and systemic directives of your own. It's an opportune time to be clear and forceful about how you want your story to unfold in the coming years.

♋ CANCER (June 21-July 22): What's your most frustrating flaw? During the next seven weeks, you will have enhanced power to diminish its grip on you. It's even possible you will partially correct it or outgrow it. To take maximum advantage of this opportunity, rise above any covert tendency you might have to cling to your familiar pain. Rebel against the attitude described by novelist Stephen King: "It's hard to let go. Even when what you're holding on to is full of thorns, it's hard to let go. Maybe especially then."

♌ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): In his book *Whistling in the Dark*, author Frederick Buechner writes that the ancient Druids took "a special interest in in-between things like mistletoe, which is neither quite a plant nor quite a tree, and mist, which is neither quite rain nor quite air, and dreams, which are neither quite waking nor quite sleep." According to my reading of the astrological omens, in-between phenomena will be your specialty in the coming weeks. You will also thrive in relationship to anything that lives in two worlds or that has paradoxical qualities. I hope you'll exult in the educational delights that come from your willingness to be teased and mystified.

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The English word "vellety" refers to an empty wish that has no power behind it. If you feel a longing to make a pilgrimage to a holy site, but can't summon the motivation to actually do so, you are under the spell of vellety. Your fantasy of communicating with more flair and candor is a vellety if you never initiate the practical steps to accomplish that goal. Most of us suffer from this weakness at one time or another. But the good news, Virgo, is that you are primed to overcome your version of it during the next six weeks. Life will conspire to assist you if you resolve to turn your wishy-washy wishes into potent action plans—and then actually carry out those plans.

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): In the 2002 film *Spider-Man*, there's a scene where the character Mary Jane slips on a spilled drink as she carries a tray full of food through a cafeteria. Peter Parker, whose alter ego is Spider-Man, makes a miraculous save. He jumps up from his chair and catches Mary Jane before she falls. Meanwhile, he grabs her tray and uses it to gracefully capture her apple, sandwich, carton of milk, and bowl of jello before they hit the floor. The filmmakers say they didn't use CGI to render this scene. The lead actor, Tobey Maguire, allegedly accomplished it in real life—although it took 156 takes before he finally mastered it. I hope you have that level of patient determination in the coming weeks, Libra. You, too, can perform a small miracle if you do.

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Scorpio mathematician Benoit Mandelbrot was a connoisseur of "the art of roughness" and "the uncontrolled element in life." He liked to locate and study the hidden order in seemingly chaotic and messy things. "My life seemed to be a series of events and accidents," he said. "Yet when I look back I see a pattern." I bring his perspective to your attention, Scorpio, because you are entering a phase when the hidden order and secret meanings of your life will emerge into view. Be alert for surprising hints of coherence.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): I suspect that in July and August you will be invited to commune with rousing opportunities and exciting escapades. But right now I'm advising you to channel your intelligence into well-contained opportunities and sensible adventures. In fact, my projections suggest that your ability to capitalize fully on the future's rousing opportunities and exciting escapades will depend on how well you master the current crop of well-contained opportunities and sensible adventures. Making the most of today's small pleasures will qualify you to harvest bigger pleasures later.

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): If you saw the animated film *The Lion King*, you may have been impressed with the authenticity of the lions' roars and snarls. Did the producers place microphones in the vicinity of actual lions? No. Voice actor Frank Welker produced the sounds by growling and yelling into a metal garbage can. I propose this as a useful metaphor for you in the coming days. First, I hope it inspires you to generate a compelling and creative illusion of your own—an illusion that serves a good purpose. Second, I hope it alerts you to the possibility that other people will be offering you compelling and creative illusions—illusions that you should engage with only if they serve a good purpose.

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): I do a lot of self-editing before I publish what I write. My horoscopes go through at least three drafts before I unleash them on the world. While polishing the manuscript of my first novel, I threw away over a thousand pages of stuff that I had worked on very hard. In contrast to my approach, science-fiction writer Harlan Ellison dashed off one of his award-winning stories in a single night, and published it without making any changes to the first draft. As you work in your own chosen field, Aquarius, I suspect that for the next three weeks you will produce the best results by being more like me than Ellison. Beginning about three weeks from now, an Ellison-style strategy might be more warranted.

♓ PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): According to my assessment of the astrological omens, you're in a favorable phase to gain more power over your fears. You can reduce your susceptibility to chronic anxieties. You can draw on the help and insight necessary to dissipate insidious doubts that are rooted in habit but not based on objective evidence. I don't want to sound too melodramatic, my dear Pisces, but THIS IS AN AMAZING OPPORTUNITY! YOU ARE POTENTIALLY ON THE VERGE OF AN UNPRECEDENTED BREAKTHROUGH! In my opinion, nothing is more important for you to accomplish in the coming weeks than this inner conquest.

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